

From
Mrs. Philip S. Post
c/o Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen
Raymuth - Bar Harbor
Maine



Mrs. Robert E. Spear
Lakeville
Connecticut



loss and the tragic cir-
 cumstances, can take away
 the beauty and the love
 and the truth of it all -
 What others do may nearly kill
 us because of the pain, but
 whatever we do that is good and
 beautiful can never be lost -
 - and so, it is with you and
 Mr Spurr - and with the influence
 of your dear soul's life -

Again my dear dear
Mrs. Spurr I beg you to accept
the love which has been in
my heart - for you - during
these months of illness and
to believe that I pray for
your well being and for
many years of blessed

companionship with your
devoted husband and
your family and ^{the} host
of friends who look to you
and need the inspiration of
your life -

Affectionately
Janet Craig Post
(Mrs. Phelps.)

Light and Liberty

A. N. O'BRIEN
EDITOR
227 W. VICTORIA
DULUTH, MINN.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE WORD OF GOD
AND THE WORK OF THE LORD.

PUBLISHED BY
LIGHT AND LIBERTY PUBLISHING CO.
FORT DODGE, IOWA, U. S. A.

Dr. Robert E. Speer, Atlantic, Iowa, 9/29/34.
Sec'y Presbyn. Board of Foreign Missions,
New York City,

My dear Friend,

I was deeply saddened by the news of the death of your Son. What deep waters you are passing through! I trust that "The Father of Mercies and the God of all comfort" has comforted you in a very real way.

I never had such a trial to go through, so my sympathy may not seem very comforting, but I wanted to express my deep feelings over such a tragedy. Only God can heal such wounds.

I am teaching the Word to christians in a rural part of this state. We have spent three weeks, -nearly four- on the book of Hebrews, with some profit, I believe, to hearers and to the speaker. I am away from home about ten months of the year, in this work and in Bible conferences. Seem able for six nights a week of preaching almost all the year around. Have had wonderful health for the past 30 years.

I am not sure that I have seen you since, through your kindness, I was at Huntingdon, Pa., in the Summer of 1890, but I have not forgotten your kindness then, and previously.

Likeky you will remember my wife. She was Hattie E. Dyer, State Sec'y of Y.W.C.A. of Pennsylvania in 89-91. She is still very fond of work among women. Has four weekly Bible classes in Duluth, our home. This keeps her mind occupied, and alert, I was 70 on Jan. 17th, of this year and she was 69 on the next day. We have a son, Rupert, -Sec'y Y.M.C.A. Oak Park, Ills. He is forty. Our oldest Daughter, 38 is in Winnetka, Ills. and Grace is in Leonia N.J. -Her name is Mrs. Hugh O'Neill, 9 Palmer Place.

I do not know what family you have, but hope that you have living children, and a wife to comfort you in this time of sorrow.

You will see that I am seeking to spread the knowledge of the Word, by the printed page. I will enclose three or four tracts.

With love in Christ, I am,
Yours in grace,

A. N. O'Brien,

with very deep and
sincere sympathy to
you and regret at Mrs^O

Miss Emma Jessie Ogg

& the world of your son's
leadership.

104 South Elliott Place

129 Σ 69 -
116 EAST 68TH STREET

wed.

Dearest Mrs. - Spurr.

As I think of Thanksgiving
day I can be very specially
thankful that I've had the
privilege of knowing Elliott
respecting & loving him.

These clippings I know
you'd want so I'm sending
them along. Next week I'll
think of you very really as

You have to face publicity
& I can only pray God
will give all of your
strength sufficient for your
needs -

Don't answer this!

I've had two grand visits
both Holly & she is very
bondurant -

Lovingly. Kay Olcott

ada/129 East 69.

Sunday

Dearest Mrs. Spier.

My heart goes
out to all of you +

I'm so stunned

myself I can hardly
believe it.

Elliot was so well
beloved by everyone

with her might help.

The firmness of Elliott,
his good humor +
his fairness will always
make me rejoice and
I know the memory of
such a life has no regrets.

With much love

Ray Dkott

Who knew him &
my mind can't seem
to fathom such a thing.

May God give
you strength for
even this and all
future know if
I can fit in to any
plans Holly may
have when being

With Profound^{est} and heartfelt sympathy.
The "God of all comfort" is with you. "Jesus
never fails." HCG

Adeline W. Owen

Miss Owen

18 Franklin Place

135 E 52^d St.
N. Y. City.

Arch. Mag. Alcott's letter

- - - THE BEYOND - - -

It seemeth such a little way
to me
Across to that strange country,
The Beyond;
For it has grown to be
The home of those of whom I am
so fond.

And so for me there is no Death -
It is but crossing with
abated breath
A little strip of sea;
To find one's loved ones
waiting on the shore,
More beautiful, more precious,
than before.

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MRS. EBEN ERSKINE OLCOTT
129 EAST SIXTY NINTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY
REGENT 4-2579

My deepest sympathy to you
two dear people and all
your family from
Kate V. S. OLCOTT

Sept 16,
1934

ack
Oct 17

Old Greenwich House
Stewartsville N.J.

September 26. 1934

My dear Mrs. Speer -

This little note is to
carry to you the loving
sympathy I feel I must
express for you & for
Dr. Speer in your great
sorrow. My husband, too
wishes to join me. We
so admired the young
man though we did not
know him personally.

Perhaps we are peculiarly
able to sympathize with you
as we were called upon to
give up our only son - a
~~fine young man of 24~~
when the war of this note
requires no reply. - Sincerely
(Mrs. Char. C.) Dorothy C. Overstreet.

u/

September 17, 1934

Precious Mrs. Speer,

No attempt to put our sympathy into words, dear, dear friend, only the assurance of how our hearts go out to you, as we surround you with our love and prayers.

You have been so comforting to us in our every hour of need and we are pleading God's precious promises for you all.

May our Heavenly Father's gracious gift of peace and strength be yours moment by moment.

With tenderest love.

Your Sylvia

A from 2 Eaton Gate
London S.W. 1

613
TELEPHONE:
WHITEHALL 4843

TELEGRAMS:
"HELLENIST. (PICCY)

THE ATHENÆUM,

PALL MALL, S.W. 1.

My dear Speer,

We had a
brief reference in the paper
to the tragic death of Elliott.
I know nothing more and
therefore do not know what
to write except to tell you
that since the news reached
us Mr and Mrs. Speer have
been very much in our
thoughts and prayers. One
cannot in this mortal
existence understand the

the coming of these mysterious
happenings and we have to seek
refuge and rest in the revelation
of a love from which
Nothing can separate us
and those dear to us. Human
sympathy can do little to
heal the wound but I do not
doubt that even in your
deepest pain you are finding
evidence of God's mercy
and experiencing His
Comfort.

In affectionate remembrance
in which my wife shares,
Ever for J. H. Adams

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PRESBYTERIAN HEADQUARTERS

Synods of ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI AND TENNESSEE

Representing NATIONAL MISSIONS ADMINISTRATION
AND THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U. S. A.

REV. E. L. ORR, *Synodical Executive*

Presbyterian Building
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

September 17, 1934

Dr. and Mrs. Robt. E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

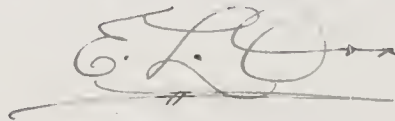
Dear Friends:

Mrs. Orr and I have been greatly distressed
and grieved to note by the press the unfortunate death
of Mr. Elliot Speer at Northfield.

It is past our conception that such a
tragedy could have occurred. Be assured of our
sympathy and prayers.

May the Lord be gracious to you and
yours.

Yours very cordially,



E. L. Orr

o/e

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Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Sept: 20 - 1934.

Dear Mr. Speer -

Our sincere
love and sympathy
go out to you dear
people, may God
continue the assurance
of his fellowship with
you all and give you
peace -

Mr. Wm. D. Speer
— — —

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House of Hope Presbyterian Church

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Sept. 18, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Mrs. Odell and I are beyond words in our sorrow at the grief which has come to you and Mrs. Speer and to the Widow and her children.

We join fervently with the thousands of those around the world who are praying earnestly that all of you may be very conscious of the strength of the Everlasting Arms underneath.

Fraternally,

Arthur Odell.

Anne B. Orbison

P. E. Spoor

Cranks Creek Community Center

Cranks, Kentucky

Conducted by

The Board of National Missions

of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

M3

NOV 10 1934

ADMS

Anne B. Orbison, Executive

November 8, 1934.

Rev. Robert E. Pope, D.D.

156 - Fifth Ave., New York.

My dear Cousin Rob,

A number of times I have attempted to write to you, expressing my deepest sympathy for you in the tragic bereavement in your family. I living, as I have for so many years in the Southern mountains I have come face to face with such tragedy many times. A man's life (woman's too) seems of little value if there are grudges to settle. Even the mountain boy and girl will say, "He had it to do." I am located in Harlan County noted for its killings but in our little Cranks Community there is a much higher standard and comparing with other sections of the County decidedly less murder. But when such an experience comes into the life of one of my own I say, what shall I call it? it seems almost beyond belief.

In a meeting of our Buchanan Presbytery this fall Dr. Murdoch spoke of your bereavement, also of comfort he had received, as he heard you talk of the Great Comforter, Jesus Christ. I wish I might express to you how I feel, but words fail me, for I know that you know the source of all help far better than I do. My hope is that the mystery of the tragedy may be solved.

Affectionately yours,

Anne (Nan) B. Orbison

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Muskogee, Okla., Oct. 8, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Every time I have been doing correspondence I have allowed it to slip my mind to write you how deeply Mrs Payne and I sympathize with you over the loss of your son.

We watched the papers for all the details given, and so did all your friends here. Dr. Kerr of Tulsa was always asking me for news and I was asking for what he had learned, but neither of us had any for the other.

There is nothing one can say in face of such a sudden deprivation as has been yours that will do more than to tell you that you and Mrs. Speer were much in our thoughts in those trying days, as you still are. We think of how terrible it would be for us if one of ours should be taken as suddenly in some accident in this fast-moving America of ours.

We can only commend you, as we would commend ourselves, to that only source of comfort who is all powerful to help us in this as in all other trials.

Sincerely yours,

J. Payne

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Fort Street Presbyterian Church

Fort and Third Streets

Detroit, Mich.

September 27, 1934

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York

My dear Doctor:

I know too well what any token of sympathy has meant to me to hesitate to hasten my word of feeling for you and Mrs. Speer.

So different and yet so much the same--was my loss of my eldest born, who left the Army with tuberculosis, and we had need through four years to know the inevitable end to be. Your lad had achieved rare approximation to your dearest ideals of him,--and went--went on, thank God for the avid conviction of it, and thank Him for the cumulative evidences buttressing it--went on--just over a threshold to the higher room where his new tools awaited him.

We had our lad's return to us back to the recovery of a childhood simplicity which never had he quite had. As with your own lad--Death had loosed hold of and dropped all tokens of terror--and had only the handclasp of the appointed Guide to offer him. It is a great thing to smile at Death, and compel Death to smile back.

In precious and grateful memories of your own cherished words to me and mine a year and more ago, I beg a thought of me as praying that God's gracious lights may very much illumine your thought of your lad. Yes, His lights, for it must have been an immense commission over there which called him, and a love out-reaching yours which could justify God to Himself in His own act in the call.

Forgive my too many lines; I'm hungrily talking to myself, perchance, as much as to you and yours.

With great affection,

Edward H. Pence

Edward H. Pence

EHP:FA

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Women's Christian College, Madras, Inc.

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Dear Dr. Speer.

I was glad of your
letter this morning -
I have thought so often of
you and Mrs. Speer during
the past year. I did not
write as I knew you would
be overwhelmed with letters from
those who love and honor
you. May 2 first day now,
that I can never forget
our association in work
for Christ; and never have
doubted your unwavering

loyalty to him, and his truth.

This I cannot say of all
our co-workers, but I want
to say it to you as I have
said it of you.

As you helped in the Building
Campaign for the Revere College
you will rejoice in the work
of this Medical College, one
of the Revere.

If our hopes are fulfilled it
will be through prayer and
to the glory of God - I hope
I can go on working until
I am called home.

With kindest regards to you
and yours. Sincerely
Levy ^{Peabody}

ovs

M H Looloian

Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

STEWARTSVILLE, NEW JERSEY

The Rev. M. H. Looloian, Pastor

Phone: 14 R 12.

Oct. 24, 1934

"The Manse"

October 23, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer:

From the very day when your dear son Elliot was so tragically slain I have followed you in prayer. My heart has gone out for you and Mrs. Speer again and again.

I was at Northfield last Summer during August. The first day that I was there I went to Mt. Hermon and made a point to call and see your dear son and my good friend. We had a few minutes chat at the administration building. That was the last and sweetest memory of his in my life. Thousands have ~~return~~ written to you already. But somehow I have been waiting to slip in a quiet way, if I may, and by the grace of God to assure you of my heart-felt sympathy and my humble prayers with thousands of others have ~~been~~ been already answered, in that, that God has comforted and sustained you and Mrs. Speer.

I also remember how beautifully and with such a great spirit you answered that young man who asked you a question in connection with ~~he~~ the Independent Board after your fine address in the Sage Chapel. To great many of us that was unnecessary and unchristlike, the way he answered you after you had taken the time to fully answer his question. But right will triumph and I am confident that you are on the right side. God has used you during all these many years and we are hoping and praying that your life may ~~be~~ be spared for great many years more.

Accept the sincere and heartfelt sympathy of an humble servant in the Master's work. Your life has been a blessing to me during my student days at Mt. Hermon. Then as I have heard you here and there I still carry on the inspiration of your life. Then if you recall several years ago I secured \$1000. for the Foreign Mission Board from one of my members here who wanted to invest as an annuity. These facts may help you know as to who I am.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Speer and yourself.

Sincerely Yours,

M. H. Looloian

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CABLEGRAMS: "INMISCO, LONDON"

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OB

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EDINBURGH HOUSE

2 EATON GATE, LONDON, S.W.1

21 Sept.

My dear Sir,

I was horrified to receive the paper the news of the death of your son, & the war in which it came about. I have no new information than that which appeared in the London press, but I can faintly imagine the loss & grief to yourself Mrs. Speer. I only knew Elliott slightly, but enough to admire him & to understand why he was so unwisely esteemed.

✓

I expect you saw the news of the sad death of
Frank Leonard, killed climbing in the Alps. I had the
sad & joyful duty of saying something about him
at a memorial service yesterday. Mrs. Leonard's
courage & faith are wonderful, & remind me again of
the unbounded resources of Christ. You Mrs. Speer
have helped so many people in ~~the~~ bereavement that
I am sure that even in so terrible a trial you will
be able to enter deeply into the knowledge of the
love of God.

Yours very sincerely

William Patie

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GENERAL SECRETARY
101-102 ARCADE BUILDING
SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

September 17, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Speer,

I read in the papers of the tragic death of your son Dr. Elliott Speer and wish at this time to extend to you my heartfelt sympathy during these days of bereavement and sorrow.

When I was a Theological student in Philadelphia I heard you very frequently in conventions and Y.M.C.A. and other conferences and your messages always left a profound impression upon my heart.. In a recent letter I asked about the possibility of your coming to our State Convention in Greensboro, January 21, 22 and 23.

I hope this sadness in your life at this time will not keep you from coming into our state. We need you at this time, especially, to help us in the work we are doing.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Sincerely yours,

Shuford Peeler
Shuford Peeler, Gen. Sec.

SP:McD

81+

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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VICTOR MANLEY PATTERSON
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139 NORTH UNION STREET
PHONE 82

ALFRED L. PIERSON
CLERK OF SESSION
31 NORTH UNION STREET
PHONE 425

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer :

As a former Hermonite, and having had a slight acquaintance with your son Elliot, I feel deeply the sorrow that has so suddenly and tragically overtaken you, and wish to extend my heartfelt sympathy.

Such experiences can be met triumphantly only by those who know God well, and you, who have taught so many of us how to know Him better, will certainly arise from this with the shout of victory.

Earnestly yours,

Victor M. Patterson.
Victor M. Patterson.

September 19,
1934.

014

LINSLEY INSTITUTE

WHEELING, W. VA.

"A GOOD SCHOOL FOR BOYS SINCE 1814"

JAMES MEASE POTTER, D.D., PRESIDENT

Sept. 19. 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer.

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Wheeling last Monday action was taken expressing our deep sympathy with you and Mrs. Speer in the tragic loss of your dear son. We paused for a few moments while Dr. C. H. McDonald (formerly of the men's work, but now in our Presbytery) offered an earnest prayer for God's richest blessing, and a abiding comfort in this holy hour of your loss and sorrow.

A few years ago we lost a noble lad from our family circle. We now have a son who has been preaching four years, and I can have some idea of the poignant grief in the time of such a loss.

What blessed and tender memories are yours, however, of the wonderful and enduring influence your son has left, as he impressed his life and character on the sensitive hearts and lives of ~~some~~ many boys and youth who have come in touch with him thro' these years at school. His influence for good can never be reckoned up until the Judgement Books unfold.

May God bless and keep you both, and comfort you in the sharpness of your grief. And may He share you both for many blessed years to continue your wonderful service for the Kingdom. cordially
 J. M. Potter,
 Stated Clerk - Wheeling Presbytery.

618

Oak Lane Presbyterian Church

OAK LANE AT N. ELEVENTH STREET
OAK LANE, PHILADELPHIA

REV. WILSON T. M. BEALE, D.D., PASTOR
6635 N. ELEVENTH STREET

MR. HORACE LINTON, CLERK OF SESSION
6404 N. SEVENTH STREET

MR. WILLIAM L. HOLMES, CHURCH TREASURER
7005 N. TWELFTH STREET

MR. EDWARD J. MAGUIGAN, BENEVOLENCE TREASURER
1019 OAK LANE AVENUE

"The Cause" 9/15/34

My dear Dr. Oyster,

Words fail me at this moment but I want you to know that I am thinking of you, loving you and praying earnestly that you and your dear ones might be sustained by that faith which I know has been your stay during the many, many great and trying experiences of your eminently useful life.

May God bless you.
Sincerely, your friend,

Wilson T. M. Beale,

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THE CAP AND GOWN CLUB

540 ATLANTIC AVENUE
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

GRADUATE DEPARTMENT

Fremont C. Peck, Treas.

September 26, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Rockledge,
Lakeville, Conn.

Dear Doctor Speer:

I have your note of September 24th in connection with Elliott's Cap and Gown dues. I am sorry that he was unable to keep up his graduate dues but I can understand the difficulties in times of depression. There is, of course, nothing further to be done regarding the bill of \$20.00 to which he referred in his letter to me of January 22nd, so do not think any more about it.

May I express to you, as I already have to his wife, my deep sympathy and the hope that some solution may be found to the mystery surrounding his death.

Sincerely yours,


Treasurer.

078

4953 McKEAN STREET
GERMANTOWN, PA.

Dear Dr. Speer,

I wish to drop you just a line to let you know that my heart breaks when I think of the tragedy that has come into your life. May God bless you and your wife, as I know He will.

Sincerely your friend
Hos. E. Pears, Jr.

ack. Oct 15 1934.

2001 TWENTY-FOURTH STREET
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 13th, 1934

Dear Mrs. Speer: -

'Tis impossible
to find words to
adequately express
sympathy for one
to whom has come
such a tragedy
as yours, this past
summer.

I wish you to
know however that

I have shared,
with a vast multitude
of your co-workers
and friends of the
Y. W. C. C., in your
sorrow, and have
thought of you with
affectionate understanding.

Very truly yours
Katherine B. Parker

P.S. I should have written
before but have not
been long home from my vacation,
and missed the news for some time.

K.B.P.

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REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

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October 4, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr. Speer:

The many associations which you have had with our Board of Foreign Missions have led us all to think of you as being within our intimate circle of friends. Our thoughts have therefore been much with you in these recent weeks and the Board have instructed me to extend to you our deep sympathy in the tragedy which has visited your family.

May I express also to you and Mrs. Speer my own personal sympathy and the assurance of affectionate remembrances in your hours of sorrow.

Yours sincerely,

F. M. Potter

676

LOUIS F. POWELL
103 N. HIGHLAND AVE.
LANSDOWNE, PA.

My dear Dr. Speer:

I have been shocked to learn
of your tragic loss.

You will probably remember me
as a former member of Dr. Lard's church
at West Chester, and a member of the
standing committee on foreign missions,
and of the sub-committee to review the
financial report of the Board, of the
General Assembly at Cleveland in May.

Let me assure you Dr. Speer,
of my deepest sympathy, and trust
the Lord will sustain you in
your hour of trial.

Very sincerely,

Louis F. Powell

9-18-'34

58

SOUTHERN GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION
MUNSEY BUILDING, BALTIMORE

September 20, 1934.

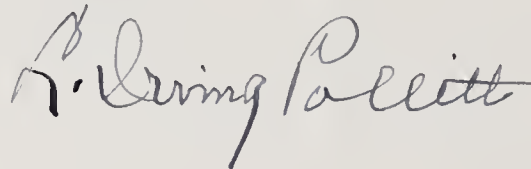
Dear Doctor:

Mrs. Pollitt joins me in deepest sympathy to you and Mrs. Speer, in the great tragedy and sorrow which has come into your family circle. The Christian world sorrows with you.

Personally, I shall always remember the day he spent with us and in Brown Memorial, several years ago. I am glad to have the memory.

Faithfully yours,

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York.



578

21 Cleveburn Place
Buffalo, N. Y.
September 25, 1934

Robert E. Speer, D. D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

My dear Doctor Speer:

Perhaps at this time I may be permitted to express my thanks to you, under God, for the help and inspiration you and your books have been to me. I am a Congregational minister, a graduate of Williams College (1912) and Hartford Seminary (1915). Your books influenced me considerably in my younger days and have aided many of my sermons. Even this last summer I placed "The Master of the Heart" close at hand on my desk. And you keep up your noble work, adding not long ago the book entitled, "The Finality of Jesus Christ."

Fraternally yours,

Ernest B. Patten.

(Rev.) Ernest B. Patten.

P. S. Please do not trouble to acknowledge this note.

018



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Steubenville, Ohio

MINISTER
REV. RAYMOND W. SMITH

September 25, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Speer:

Since reading of the tragic death of your son Elliott, I have been desirous of writing you to express my deep sympathy in this time of your great bereavement. Although I never knew Elliott personally,--I only knew him by reputation--yet I am persuaded that a young man of such noble parentage, who has consecrated his life to Christ, was greatly needed in our day and generation. It may be that God knew that his martyrdom would be more potent for righteousness than even his useful life. My heart bleeds for you and Mrs. Speer in this great loss of your son. I have two sons of my own and can easily imagine what a tremendous shock it would be to me to have either of them snatched from me so suddenly. But we never lose those we love; and I am sure that you feel that all is well with his soul, and that the great comfort you have been to others in proclaiming the unsearchable riches of Christ will now be of comfort to your own aching heart.

Since a youth of high school age, attending the summer conference at Waynesville, North Carolina, where I first came under the inspiration of your consecrated life, I have always been an admirer and a staunch supporter of you.

Trusting God's infinite peace shall assuage your griefs and lesson your sorrows, I am

Sincerely yours,

51

Lemoore, California, Oct. 4, '34th
Dr. Robert E. Speer,
New York.

Dear Mr. Speer:-

Ever since I read in various papers of the mysterious assassination of your son at Northfield, I have been intending to write my deepest sympathy. Surely such unexplainable visitations are beyond us to know why, and we are thrown back upon the Scriptures: "What I do thou knowest not now, but thou shalt know hereafter."

May God grant His comforting grace to you and Mrs. Speer, and members of your family.

Sincerely,
T. J. Preston

511

THE MORRIS APARTMENTS
311 SO. 13TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

Sept 19, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer,

I have no words to express my horror at the deed; nor have I any counsel of comfort for you that I know you do not already richly possess, but I must send you my human love and assurance of prayer for you all. I know perfectly well where you are finding the answer to the mystery and the only consolation that can tide you over. Please tell Mrs. Speer too of our sympathy and prayer.

As ever yours,

Geo. P. Herson

6/24

SQUIRREL OAKS
FERNWOOD AND NORWOOD
UPPER MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY

September 15, 1934

My Beloved Rob-

We have just heard the
News that stuns us. It seems impossible
and incomprehensible. Our hearts
are bowed with sorrow as we think
of you and your family, of Holly
and her children, of the wells, of
Elliot's many friends and of the
School. There is nothing adequate
that we can say but Emmabell
joins me in sending a reminder
of our deep, deep love and sympathy.

For Elliot, this was a quick
passage across the boundary but

friends and to the Maestri Hermon
students and faculty as they come
to realize more clearly how soon
our life here may end and we may
experience the life beyond. Who will
take up Elliott's work? We do not
know but we realize that an
added responsibility rests on us
who remain.

May God our Loving Father
be very very near to you all. How
I wish I could be near and help in
some way. Ever devotedly
Your Pal
W. Snow and joy. Delavan.

for those left behind the journey
will be more sad and difficult
than we can know. Walter and
Anna, Eileen, Belle and I have
been writing in prayer for all
of you on whom this blow has
fallen so suddenly. We believe
that our loving Heavenly Father will
bear each one of you up and will
strengthen you now and in the
days to come. May new and
rich experiences of the fellowship
of Christ in some way compensate
for this earthly loss. We pray
too that in some way blessing
may come to Elliott's many

Answer
9/25/34

FOUR BROOKS FARM
LEE, MASSACHUSETTS
TEL. LEE 158-W

September 19 1934

My dear Mr. Speer,

Nothing could be more
shocking and tragic than Elliott's
death. You have my sincerest
sympathy in this most trying
time. How unnecessary it all
seems!

Sincerely

Walter W. Palmer.

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HARRISBURG, PA.

THE MISSIONARY
REVIEW *of the* WORLD

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*and
was*

September 26/34

Beloved Rob.

You are almost constantly in my thoughts - night & day. And our hearts go out to you and Holly and the dear little children. If I could do anything to help I would come or go anywhere to do it. We are thankful to know that you receive our Father's loving care and that Christian faith is adequate in such an experience - or that Christ is adequate rather.

If you could read the letters I receive and hear what people say to me you would realize more than ever the love and cheer you are held to the prayer that has been going up for all of you. Not only the McDougalls of course, but my sister Laura & Edith Evans & Helen Curtis & Jessie Righter, who was at Elliott's home last summer, & Marnie Dougherty - this

-trajidy has came & close home to all
we can only pray and trust and go on
doing what God gives us to do.

We haven't been able to get a
quorum for the Review meeting but all
the members of the Board want to send you
a word of our united love and heart ache
for you. The Unitarian Group meet in
United Chapel also & many others.

You probably heard of John Mott's
wife's accident in Canada - Compound
fracture of the ankle. John was much
disturbed & cancelled his dates. Her
heart action is not good.

So life goes on - here or there -
we don't know what a day may
hold for us but we may have
strength in each day as it comes.

No need to reply to this letter.
Don't do it. I understand

Appreciated as ever

Dulcan

Ans
Oct 6

Williamstown?

Sept. 15. '34.

Dear dear friend,
God comfort
and strengthen you
in this hour of sorrow.

Our hearts go out
to you in great
sympathy.

How only wish
we could help.

Command me
if now or ever, I can

be of any service.

Commending
you to the Heavenly
Father's keeping.

Adieu
Your devoted friend,
Robert and Jean Vadeau.

Ans
Oct 5.

Dear Bob -

WM. LYON PHELPS
SEVEN GABLES
GRINDSTONE CITY
MICHIGAN

24 Sept 1934

I have watched the papers every day to see if some further light would be thrown on the unspeakably shocking tragedy. I admired Elliott so much. My deepest and most affectionate sympathy to you both
W. L. Phelps

add.

wednesday P.M.

My dear Mrs. Speer:

I want you to know how much my thoughts have been with you all, these last few days, and how deeply sympathetic I feel, although words at a time like this do seem rather empty.

I can never forget those two years at Mount Hermon with Mr. and Mrs. Speer and the family. Although my time was spent mostly with the children, contact with Mr. Speer could not

feel anything but a fondness
for the home at Mount Hermon,
and the members of its family,
and all those who were connected
with that home.

With loving wishes to
you all

Most sincerely,

Clarissa Peice

Stratford Archer Rd.,
Rye, N. Y.

help being deeply felt by one
taken into the family as I was.

In spite of the fact that
circumstances seemed to make
it necessary for me to be nearer
New York, I have felt that I
had left a real home.

If there is anything I
may have done to help in
smoothing the way to the
accomplishment of things with
which I came in indirect contact,
I am only too glad to think
that I have been of some
assistance. I can never

ack.

104 W. Springfield Ave

My dear Mrs. Speer -

As my return to Chestnut Hill on Monday I heard of the unbelievable tragedy that has come to you & Mr. Speer. There are no words. I can only make a feeble attempt at sending you a heart full of love and sorrow and sympathy -

Devotedly
Emily Peckin

P

ackd.

My dear Emma Speer

I am thinking of you with
so much love and sympathy in
these days of loss & grief for you
& r. Speer. Don't try to
conceal this, you need not, I only
wanted to remind you of our old
friends sorrow because of yours.

Ever sincerely yours,

Harriet P. Pease

Sept 22 1860

ack.

424 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

Sept 22nd

Dear Tom Speer -

All your friends must
be asking you the same
thing - "Can I help". If there
is anything I could do you
will let me know I am sure.
Or if you feel I could be of
any use to dear Holly you
know how greatly I would
want to be.

I was on the ocean

and only received Hollys
telegram when I got back
Thursday.

My deepest sympathy
and affection go out to you.

Jean.

579
Accept my thanks.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederic B. Pratt

Glen Cove
Long Island

UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Indianapolis, Ind.

New York City.
Sept. 20. '34

017

My dear Dr. Speer:-

You are being loaded down with messages of sympathy in this dark hour in which Mrs. Speer & you and your family are called to pass through.

I had decided to refrain from writing you, but you have been in my thoughts and prayers day and night since the unspeakable tragedy occurred. That this terrible sorrow should come to you and yours is inexplicable.

For forty years, your messages of faith &
love have encouraged hundreds of
those who have heard & read them &
now that your own faith is being tested
so as by fire, it will come out from
the furnace of suffering purified and
strengthened.

I am but one of hundreds who would
gladly bear this awful burden in your
stead but that is not the Father's way, but
we are suffering with you.

Through the years you have meant so
much to me & my heart, manna with yours
in this sad hour & your great loss.

"What shall separate us from the love of Christ?
shall tribulation or distress? Nay, we are
more than conquerors." Your friend in sorrow.

Abraham Paul.

57

1895 - Concourse -
New York City

Dear Frank Mrs. Bell -

Ms. self -
putting with for I
will.

Very sincerely -

Thomas W. Hume

517 1895 Grand Concourse
New York

Dear Dr. + Mrs. Speer:

Words fail me
as I try to express to
you what I feel because
of the great sorrow that
has come to you and
your family. I do want
you to know of my deep
sympathy, and of my
prayer that you who
have so often comforted
others in bereavement
may now be upheld in

these days of suffering,
and in the days to
come, by the tender love
of our compassionate
Father and His Son,
the Comforter.

Yours in heartfelt sympathy
Doris C. Pinder

September 16, 1934

57

309 South Main St:
Bangor, Pa.
Sept 14/34.

Dear Dr Speer:

I am sure that all Presbyterian ministers, and officers share with you in the heartache of the tragic death of your beloved son.

And although we know that any form of taint for revenge is entirely foreign to your great soul, we do hope that the guilty person is brought to justice.

Truly sympathetically yours.
(Feb) Griffith Jones Parry

MISS GERTRUDE PEET
-PINELAND JUNIOR COLLEGE
SALEMBURG, N. C.

3017. Washington St.

Ypsilanti, Mich.

Sept. 23, 1934.

Dear Dr. Stewart
Mrs. Spear.

I have been reading in
the papers about the terrible death
of Elliot Spear and I have thought
he must have been your son. If
that is true, I want to express
to you my sincere sympathy.
Death itself is always very terrible,
but to lose a dear one in such a
way as he went is so much harder.

I know this from experience, as
one of mother's brothers was shot by
a burglar and died in a few
minutes. It always seemed that
he had not lived out his allotted
time. The murderer is in prison
for life; but that does not help
us any. I do hope the person
who killed Rev. Elliot will be
found. Anyway I want you
to know that you have my
deep sympathy.

Sincerely yours.

Gertrude A. Peet.

23 Fairview Ave.

Belmont, Mass.

Sept. 16, 1934.

Dear Dr. Speer,

(5)

Since reading in the Boston paper last night of your deep sorrow in the tragic death of your son, my prayer and thought has gone out to you and your dear ones. I just felt moved.

to send you this
note.

I told you this summer at Northfield how your life had helped me. What would we do without Christ in such experiences in our lives? May His deepest comfort and peace be with you all.

Again I thank my dear Heavenly Father for all He has done for me through you, His faithful sincere servant.

I am a teacher of

little children here
in Belmont.

Sincerely yours,
Clara V. Purdy.

57

September 16, 1934

THE MERMONT
BRYN MAWR
PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer; -

We are thinking
of you all with much love
and sympathy at this
time. Please don't acknowledge
this. We just want you to
know our thoughts are with

you, affectionately
Margaret Peirce.

3729 Greenwood

KANSAS CITY, MO. Sunday P.M. Sept. 16, 1934.

OTB
"Blessed be His glorious Name forever," in that He gave to His beloveds, Dr. & Mrs. Speer, in their first born son, one after their own hearts; who has nobly carried on, in a worthy field, their family traditions. And now He has, in that mystery of godliness which only the great day of the Lord shall ^{show,} given your Elliott to join the noble army of martyrs.

Few things, that have come to me, in the course of a long life, have given me sorer grief than that this cup should have been given to you. But I know that you greatly know that He who spared not His own Son, may sometimes find it needful not to spare the beloved of even His dearest servants. And millions

round the world join Him in
being afflicted in your affliction -
and who hold for you a death-
less love; & may He ^{(makes us worthy}
of you. yrs. Louise Phillips

Do not try to answer these notes
that will come to you from far &
near - save your strength for
the one thing needful - His Kingdom
expansion, I surmise my own

name diminish may be nearer
than circumstances indicate -
but I know He - and you
with Him - will carry on.

57

164 MAPLE STREET
ENGLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

September 20, 1934.

Dear Friends
The girls
and I are ~~growing~~
with you. We
think of Elliott as
he used to be in
Englewood, where
we never cease
to miss you all.
We know
that these are

days are bringing
you new experi-
ences of God's grace
and tenderness.

We send our
deepest sympathy
to each one of
your family.

Faithfully yours,
Sophia Prentice

ack
a P.P.S.

Duxbury,

Mass.

My very dear friends—

My heart is torn for you - I can scarcely comprehend such a dastardly act - I knew the forces of evil seemed gaining, but it is hard to believe they are in control! I am here with my Cousin for a little visit, resting and gaining strength, and was so shocked to read the name in the paper. My dear Mother left us less than two weeks ago and we thought

as the branches in the vine,
he in the Sunshine, you in
the Shadow". I am thinking
too, of his wife and children
with deepest sympathy. You
all have much to be thankful
for - his courageous stand, for
what he felt was right, his life
dedicated to you and to God.
I know Scott will be grieved
and distressed when he hears
of your deep sorrow and of
the loss that has come to you.
May our loving Heavenly Father
bear you up and give you

Courage, and faith and
trust, and may the love of
Christ be very real and close
to you both. You have been
such a tower of strength to
others and have so beautifully
lived and witnessed for Him
that you can claim upon the
grateful love of many human
hearts, as well as the tender
heart of God. With warm
affection

Edith Nichol Parrish

Sunday

September Sixteenth.

him back to rest with her loved
one. After a long and useful
life I cannot ask to have him back
but for you, my dear friends,
I mourn for the years that
might have been! And still,
we can truly believe his work
here was ended and that he
has entered into the fuller richer
life Christ has prepared for him
and that from this sacrifice
many lives may be touched
and lighted for service for the
Master. As some one so beauti-
fully wrote me "In Christ you
are still together, abiding in Him

Adm.



Dear Mrs Spur

My thoughts are constantly
with you - my prayers

for you

Love and tender sympathy

Elizabeth T. Parsons.

My deepest, dearest
sympathy

622

Mrs. William Combe Post

Mary Headley Post

Kentucky. Now?

Maria French.

ada,

Mrs. William Bowne Parsons

Flushing
Long Island

Dear Mrs. Spier.

My heart goes out
to you & Mr. Spier! Of course
Ellott's work must have been
finished & why did the father
have to take him this way? We
do need his kind in this world of
today & there are so few with his
love of goodness & such a consecra-
tion of his life to help his fellowman!
He had grown & deepened tremen-
dously in the last few years. How
happy you both must be now to
have had such a son!

May the Loving Father
comfort & guide you through
these days & give you courage to
carry on!

Yours lovingly
Mrs. M. S. T. Lawrence
Have been on motor trip & never saw a paper

ack.

Flowers,

THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB

122 EAST 66TH STREET

Dear Mrs. Speer -

You cannot help knowing
of the loving and sympathetic
thoughts from you many many
friends that are surrounding
you and Dr. Speer; and I
simply want to express to you
that Dr. Parsons and I are
so sincerely wishing you our
share -

Very Sincerely

Rose Milvina Parsons

31: Oct: 1934 -

ack.

BARBERRY HEDGE
WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Emma,

You are in my
heart constantly. Again
and again it has been
the thought of the
spiritual triumph over
suffering which I knew
was yours that has
brought some sense
of peace to me -
Many of us I am
sure have found
eternal truths shining

"The Memorial of a True Life" - and it
seemed as if ^{that} ~~the~~ Bear's sense
of immediate mission; his crowding
of his youth with ardent service,
was that of me who knew he
years of service would not be many-
and yet it was rather we
ardor of me who wished to
devote all of life our small
how long it might be - ^{Effort}
has carried responsibility that
come to few men in their early

with new meaning -
"The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still,
His kingdom is for ever."

I've had to say that to
myself over and over -
and John 3:16 has
new meaning. too.

Elliott was at his
post of service - he was
whole heartedly working to
prepare youth for the
world & what he
knew they must live -
as a young
secretary I fed upon

youth - The richness of many years
of service have been focused upon
a few. There is some comfort to me
in this and I have certainly felt the
need of comfort. Emma Fitt Powell
and I have been talking and so I
know what a wonderful outburst to
the reality of God's power & love - you,
and your husband - and Elhotta wife
have fame - and I know that you
will be sustained even in the long
night watches -
Fred wishes to express his great
sympathy to you - and to ^{Dr. Spear} put deep love -
September 14th - Theresa Paist

ack. appx. cert. in

My dear Mr. Spear,

Being away
from home and my mail
not forwarded me dur-
ing my absence, your
letter was late in reach-
ing me. It was none

vision.

May you be granted peace
and comfort and strength
to carry on.

Sincerely

Cona Root Pedem

the less appreciated.

And now this tremendous sorrow has come to you! I know that if must comfort you come to hear all of the beautiful things that have been said of your son, of his spirituality his fine mind, and his-

To
Wm. Robert Speer

The Right Reverend - James Le'Holf Perry

Sept. 22.

012
—

57

THE TOWN HALL CLUB
123 WEST 43RD STREET
NEW YORK

Dear friends:-

What a shock the passing of
Elliot so suddenly has been! Our
stunned hearts go out in loving
sympathy to you and to Elliott's
dear wife and children. The
word reached us on the way from
Williamstown Mass. where I have been
visiting since we closed the
summer home at Silver Bay - on Lake
George. Mrs. Penfield has gone
to visit Charlotte & her family in
Olean N.Y. and then goes on to
Saginaw Mich to visit Thornton Jr
and his family and to Birmingham

Mich. to visit Paul and his family.
I have sent the sad news on to
them. Mrs. Perfield and I
plan to be back at 156 Maple St.
Englewood N.J. after another week.

Be assured that we all
will be remembering and praying
for you all. I have written a
word to Elliott's wife.

With sincere affection I am

Thomas B. Perfield

Sept. 17, 1934

With deepest sympathy

Miss Emily Susan Perkins

ada.

Riverdale-on-Hudson

Deepest sympathy.
May God comfort you

Miss Phelps

G. W. H.

Lakeville, Connecticut

CLASS OF SERVICE

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PRESIDENT

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Received at

GR45 19 XC=ENGLEWOOD NJ SEP 16 1004A

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER:

=CARE M THERMON SCHOOL FOR BOYS NORTHFIELD MASS=

=MY HEART ACHES FOR YOU AND THAT LITTLE FAMILY IN YOUR
 TERRIBLE SORROW YOU HAVE MY SYMPATHY AND LOVE=

=DANIEL E POMEROY.

1058A

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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Received at 19 Dean Street, Englewood, N. J.

NBF91 23 DL 7 EXTRA=HILLSBORO NHAMP SEP 17 425P

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

MRS ELLIOTT SPEER AND DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

ENGLEWOOD NJ=

IN LOVE AND FAITH MRS POLING AND I ARE STANDING BY TODAY
AND ALL THE DAYS=

DAN POLING.

448P.



CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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GR3 3=MINNEAPOLIS MINN SEP 15 852P

ROBERT E SPFFR=

PHONE M THERMON SCHOOL NORTHFIELD MASS=


LOVE AND SYMPATHY=

NICOLS PEDERSEN.

731A

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
-----------	------------



With sincere
and heartfelt
sympathy
to you and yours.

052

33 3 Wootton Ave.

Totten

Ny

Flourence E. Furman

at this time - be good
you - With much love
Alec & Marie

MRS. ALEXANDER ROSS PIPER

ack,

7522 RIDGE BOULEVARD

Emma, dear,
Words cannot
express how deeply
I sincerely regret
for you - all - in
this great sorrow.
May the strength
& courage so needed

COLONEL ALEXANDER ROSS PIPER

UNITED STATES ARMY
RETIRED

COLONEL ALEXANDER ROSS PIPER

UNITED STATES ARMY
RETIRED

017

835 CHALMERS PLACE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Sept. 17. / 34.

My dear Robert,

Our hearts are deeply saddened
by the - news of the - irreparable tragedy at
Mt. Hermon, we both sympathize with
you & the whole family circle very sin-
cerely. What our souls need constantly

these days is a new theology, to
understand God's mysterious providences.

Sometimes prospering is as difficult
to interpret as adversity.

As Fanny J. Crosby's hymn has it,

'Tis only a little way
On to my home

'Tis only a little way.
Here shall I see

The friends that in glory
Are waiting for me."

We are praying you may all receive
spiritual compensations for your
temporay loss. God bless you.

Lillian M. & George L. Robinson

57

Dear Dr and Mrs Spear.

Mrs Ross and I wish to extend to you and your family our sincere sympathy.

My son, Alex, graduated from Mount Hermon last June. As I listened to your son's address I inwardly commented that here was a man whose influence would be increasingly felt. I was thankful that my son had had contact with such a personality.

One naturally wonders

When catastrophe strikes
those doing so superbly here
on earth. We know, however,
that his great spirit goes on
to greater service and I
am sure this is your
deepest comfort these days.

Sincerely yours
Robert M. Ross.

Rockland State Hospital
Orangeburg, N.Y.
September 17th 1934.

ants,

SEVENTHOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-TWO RIDGE BOULEVARD
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Nov. 7 - 1934

My dear Emma

Mail sent you a card to express our love and sympathy in this terrible blow which has come to you yours, but I feel I must send you a line personally to tell you how grieved I am, and how I wish there were some words of comfort that I might offer. You are too brave to be crushed by this terrible & un-called for act of mankind. And your faith in the great

Father I know will
help you to bear the
grievous grief an act
of a yellow being and
not stand the will
of God. In times of
deep distress I hear people
sail at the Almighty
for bringing such pen-
ishment but you know
as I do that the dear Lord
does not willingly im-
pact his faithful children.

May the Lord bless you
my dear Emma and give
you strength in my
earnest prayer.

All our love & sympathy
for you & the family
Affectionally,
Alys.

There shall be ^{own}
no right there -

Mrs. William Lincoln Ridpath

6516 North Seventh Street
Oak Lane

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

2945 Rainier Drive

July 22, 1935.

My dear D. Spur:

100

Few people who did not actually know your son can have been more moved than I by the little book you sent me about the memorial meeting or more grateful for being so remembered. The thing that thrills me over and over is that ~~well~~ ^{worth} you had with him after he came back from France when you had the joy of steady-
ing him in his faith. Our pastor once preached a sermon which caught Archie in the nick of time when he was in high school — a letter

crisis than your son - but I was glad to tell him about it.

After many delays I am sending you Eleanor's childhood memories of her father, which I have had by me for you, for weeks. I put with it the January issue too, as the fragment of translation will interest you, all unversed as it is. Eleanor and her children are with me, taking refuge from the epidemic of infantile paralysis in their part of N. Carolina. Archie says there is none in the mountains.

I am very grateful that all my children have the privilege of knowing you, one of their father's most valued friends.

Sincerely,
Edw. B. Robertson

What Happened in Church

THIS article appeared in the *Homiletical Review* in September, 1928. It was kindly sent us by Mrs. A. T. Robertson, who had it copied from the *Review* in the Seminary Library, primarily to use before her Sunday-school class. In sending it Mrs. Robertson writes: "On an impulse I duplicated it, thinking it might be worth reprinting. It might be effective—so Mr. Thomas A. Johnson of the Library said—as a good 'Blue Monday' tonic for preachers." And so it will be, we are sure.

APPARENTLY nothing happened. The minister was earnest and persuasive, the choir tuneful, the congregation reverent. But nobody came forward to join the church, and the pastor sighed over the carelessness of the young people, and the church letters that seemed glued in people's pockets.

Yet—in a pew at the side sat a man with a frozen heart. He rose for the opening hymn, "Hoy, holy, holy," and stared at the words with stony eyes. But in the second stanza, as the song rose, "All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns," he cried out to himself, "They do, they do!" and his heart leaped within him with the certainty of faith. He saw his mother, his quietly devout father, his lovely young wife, just passed over, praising God in heaven with rapture; and he was subdued, tender, and able to listen thankfully to the rest of the worship.

In a pew down in front, a deacon's wife asked her son, as he took his place beside her: "Where is your brother?" "In the park swimming-pool" he whispered back. A fire of grief and mortification swept through her, and it was all she could do to keep from writing on the church leaflet to her husband, "Dick is in the park swimming-pool. Please go get him out."

But her husband was clamly singing the opening hymn and she controlled her agitation, though her heart throbbed fast. Suddenly she heard a line of the hymn: "Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert and art and evermore shalt be." She said to herself, "Surely I can for one hour put aside this vexation, and worship with the angels."

Across the aisle a professor's wife and her three children sat with attentive faces. One was a high school boy. It happened that the evening before his mother had started to call him for some help in her tasks, but he was reading the encyclopedia with such a look of keen interest that she forebore to interrupt him. As he went up to bed she asked what had pleased him so much. "I was reading about Nietzsche," the lad replied; "he's a much misunderstood man!"

The mother's heart sank. Her husband was away, and she felt that she was for the moment a poor ignorant female in the eyes of arrogant boyhood. So she prayed with all her heart as the minister gave out his text, "Except a grain of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone," and announces as his subject, "Self-sacrifice the first law of nature." Here was an antidote, and the boy listened thoughtfully while she prayed for him.

In the minister's own pew a child of eight looked eagerly at his father while he preached. A new word caught his ear in a passing reference to the writings of John—"Gnostic." "Mother, do you know any Gnostics?" he whispered. She nodded. ["Why?" "The Christian Scientists are like the Gnostics."]

Presently another new word came along, "agnostic." "Do you know any agnostics?" came the urgent whisper again. Again she nodded. "Who?" "I know a doctor who says he would like to believe in religion but can't feel sure about it." "Oh," came a satisfied sigh. The minister was accustomed to these instantaneous demands for knowledge, so he was not disturbed.

A girl's class sat together near the front. A fierce struggle raged in one girl's heart. "Forgive her? How can I for-

give her? She doesn't even dream how cruel she's been! She can't imagine one-tenth of what I'm suffering!" A sentence of the sermon floated over to her: "The heart knoweth its own bitterness." A startled look drove out the anger from her brown eyes. Not one word of song or sermon had she heard till now.

Half-way through the Lord's Prayer, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" had seized her and tormented her all this time. Now something came to her aid. The quoted proverb set her mind groping. "She doesn't understand—no, of course not." Then suddenly, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." The storm ceased as she stood by the Saviour's cross, and tears of shame filled her eyes. The minister did not know on what far tangent her thoughts had flown at his brief quotation. The act of forgiveness is as deep and vital a thing as the act of repentance, and brings as deep a peace.

It chanced to be communion Sunday. A stranger sat alone in a pew. At first she had rather enjoyed the privacy of her own thoughts, the obscurity in which she shared the worship, and listened to a fresh voice in the pulpit. But as the deacons went forward to serve at the Lord's table, all strangers to her, a home-sickness for her own church and her family pew and her own pastor swept over her; and when the minister said, "Recently there was unveiled in Arlington a monument to a man of national fame," she felt distinctly irritated. But the speaker went on immediately, "We celebrate to-day a simple memorial which shall outlast all earthly honors. 'For as oft as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show forth the Lord's death till he come'."

As these familiar words fell on her ears and the table was uncovered, the stranger's loneliness fell away. As if in a trance, she lost sight of the strange faces and saw instead the Master and the group around the table and thought, "I believe to-day the Lord Himself will give me the bread and wine." Through all the quiet moments her exaltation lasted, and never had she so completely observed the ordinance "in remembrance of Him."

Few of these experiences ever came to the preacher's knowledge. Perhaps a hundred others occurred during that morning hour which seemed to him so unprofitable. "My word," saith Jehovah, "shall accomplish that which I please, and shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Louisville, Ky.

ELLA BROADUS ROBERTSON.

The Power of Prayer—T. O. REESE, D.D., Sarasota, Fla.

MODERNISTS speak of the "reflex influence of prayer," but I believe that prayer really accomplishes things. "Prayer changes things." Prayer links us with omnipotence! Prayer moves the arm that moves the world.

It puts at the disposal of the believer the resources of Deity! It has fought battles! It has won victories! It has carried burdens! It has healed wounds! It has assuaged griefs! It is the wealth of poverty; the refuge of affliction; the strength of weakness; the light of darkness! It is the oratory that gives power to the pulpit; it is the hand that smites Satan, and breaks the fetters of sin. It has arrested the wing of time, and turned aside the scythe of death. It has discharged heavy dark and frowning storm-cloud in a shower of blessings.

It is easy for an Almighty God to supply our greatest needs. Is it not just as easy for the Atlantic to carry the largest ship that ever rode her waves, as the sea-weeds and foam she flings upon the shore? Is it not just as easy for the moon to bathe and turn a mountain into silver as a mole hill? Is it not as easy for the sun to flood a whole continent with golden light as a field or a garden? Is it not just as easy for "Terra Firma" to remain steady under the tread of an elephant as an ant? Is it not just as easy for the air that envelops the earth to bear up the spreading eagle as the humming-bird? The same God who kindled the sun, lighted the fire-fly's lamp! This great God is just as ready to turn on His throne and listen to the simple prayer of a child as to hear the cry of the greatest Saint.

"What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry,
Everything to God in prayer!"

Jacob, we are told, "saw God face to face" but it was after he had wrestled all night with the angel.

Jonah sent God's message ringing through Ninevah until king and peasant sat in sackcloth and ashes, but only after he had prayed.

Daniel faced lions and more dangerous human foes, but it was after he had thrown his windows open toward Jerusalem and prayed to Jehovah his God.

Jonah sent God's message ringing through Ninevah until all through Wales, waves of Pentecostal power were felt—people shouted and testified and thirty or forty thousand souls

Moody went to London and a revival broke out in the North London church and hundreds were saved, but the Sunday before he went to that city he spent the day in Bible study and prayer.

Dr. Torrey and Mr. Alexander made a tour of the world and everywhere they went multitudes thronged to hear the Gospel in sermon and in song, and in China, in Japan, in Australia, in New Zealand, in Tasmania, in India, in England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, France, and Switzerland there were hundreds of converts. But this all dates back to a prayer meeting one Saturday night in the Moody church.

John Knox, laid Scotland at the feet of Jesus, but only after he had prayed for hours, "Lord, give me Scotland or I die."

Charles Haddon Spurgeon for years filled Surry Gardens and Exter Hall with weeping thousands, but Spurgeon was a man of prayer.

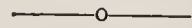
George Muller established and maintained an orphanage at Bristol, England—maintained it absolutely on faith for more than a half century. It was through prayer that this was possible.

John Wesley made such an impression on England, as no man had ever made and as no man has since made—His dead hand rings tens of thousands of church bells. He was a man of prayer. His motto was: "From my knees to the pulpit."

Dr. B. H. Carroll launched and carried to completion a number of great enterprises—among them the establishment of the Southwestern Theological Seminary. And according to his own words, he first prayed the matter through and had the assurance that that victory would crown his efforts in these undertakings.

Economically, morally and spiritually things are in a bad way. Our hope is in God. We must resort to prayer. Nothing can take its place.

"Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
That calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at my Father's throne,
Make all my wants and wishes know!"



Dr. John A. Davison in Elizabethtown

AHIGH privilege came to the Severns Valley Church, the only Baptist church in Elizabethtown, and the first church of any denomination established west of the Alleghanies, when Dr. John A. Davison, the beloved pastor of the First Church of Clarksville, Tenn., preached in our church from April 28 to May 12. It was not only a privilege for the church but for the schools, civic clubs and the entire community.

This great preacher, scholar and Christian brought to all of us a fresh vision of Jesus and caused our church more deeply to consecrate our lives to his great cause.

The quality of Dr. Davidson's preaching was excellent in that he was led by the Spirit of God to preach sermons which were thoughtful, practical, inspirational and helpful in our every day affairs. He is not sensational but is deeply spiritual and the influence of his visit with us was not only for the time being but it will be of lasting good to the entire community. He spoke each morning on the general theme "The Life Worthwhile is the Life with Christ." Each evening he spoke about the great fundamentals of our faith; the cross, why Christ died, the atonement, consciousness of guilt, repentance, confession and justification.

During his stay with us there were two hundred and fifteen re-dedications and twenty-nine who accepted Christ as Saviour and Lord.

ARTHUR STOVALL, Pastor,
Severns Valley Baptist Church,
Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

my love and sympathy

~~Miss~~ Ann Rohde

am.

ask!

1130 North Main St.

Tulsa. Okla -
Sept. 20th 1937

My dear Mrs Speer,

I want you to know that you & Dr Speer have been much in my mind, & my prayers, since the news of your great sorrow was received.

There has been nothing in our papers here about the tragedy for the last few days, so I do not know if any progress has been made in finding who fired the shot, or his reason for it. It seems incomprehensible.

I know the "rose grace" is sustaining
you, but I also know that such
things plough great furrows in
hearts that last.

You have, however, the great
consolation of knowing the fine work
Ellist was doing - that ~~at~~ he was
in the path of duty at the very time
his life was taken.

With love and great sympathy

Sincerely yours

Lavinia M. Peckstone

P.S. Our Summer here broke all previous records. One has to experience 112 to realize it - that in the shade. Also we moved in the heat and I am not getting settled very quickly - too tired - which is the reason I did not get a note off before.

Faith's Comfort

If o'er a new-made grave the tears are falling,
Faith points above
To where the light of His dear face is shining
On those we love!

—ELLA LAUDER.

life we feel meant so much &
we in our family held her in

Mr. Edmund C. Robert 579
the highest esteem.

Our sympathies to Onarock
Mrs. Speer also. Greenwich, Conn.

Dear Mr. Speer: My heartfelt
sympathy goes out to you.
My mother informs me, I saw
Elliott in June when I called
on him at Mt. Hermon. His

Deepest, & most tender sympathy
Mary C Ramsay.

Mrs. John Breckinridge Ramsay

879
—

1001 Saint Paul Street

My dear Dr. Speer,

019

Although I have never met you, I have heard my father, the Reverend Joseph Stockton Roddy, (Princeton '91), speak so many times of you, and with so much affection, that I feel I know you well enough to write to you of my sympathy for yourself and Mrs. Speer.

I was deeply shocked when

I read of the tragic death of
your son. I hope fervently that
his assailant will be soon dis-
covered, and that he will be
punished as he deserves for an
act of such wanton and un-
necessary cruelty.

Please believe me to be,
most sympathetically yours,
Rebecca P. B. Roddy.

299 W. Englewood Ave.,
West Englewood, N. J.

With our sincerest sympathy

GD

Mrs. William Henry Roberts.
& daughter Grace

210 Hindermere Avenue
Wayne, Pa.

91

Dear Mrs. Elliott Speer & Children
and Dr. & Mrs. Speer and
Dr. & Mrs. Wells :-

Our hearts have ached
for you in these weeks of
your bereavement and while
we know how full of trust
your hearts are we know too
you are lonely. But how glad
we are you are such close
friends of the Master, and
you ~~will~~ and will be com-
forted by Him in such
ways as the world knows
not of. We, with your other

friends, are asking very special Blessings for you all! You all have been such blessings to so many that we know ~~our~~ God is giving you such help and comfort as you have given.

And oh! so many, rise up to call dear Elliott blessed!! God grant the many lives he touched so beautifully at Northfield & elsewhere will be stronger, better lives because of this great bereavement.

And somehow we just feel that dear Elliott himself will be your own Comforter; it must be that he is the Spirit being sent to you as special interpreter of God's spirit and bringing healing in his wings.

It is wonderful too to know his "works will follow him" and that he is going on to even larger & more glorious living.

And oh! what a help the blessed memories will be to you all all thro the years - My husband & I knew Elliott only slightly, ^{personally} but are grateful that he touched our lives at Northfield several times

and we rejoice in those memories - and
our Dick - who knew Elliott in student volunteer
days - and our nephew (during student days
at Lafayette) brought your dear one's "pave
for good" very close to us and we are
glad for you all in the possession still of
such a dear one. Each of ~~us~~ would so
like to take each of you by the hand
& let you feel thereby our sympathy and
love. Sincerely,
Dorothea S. Ritter

457 Washington Ave Bklyn
October fifth

My dear Dr. Sprer:

My heart goes out to
 you + Mrs. Sprer. May God
 give you back the strength
 + fortitude needed.
 Words are so futile but
 you will know how I feel.

Ken H. Moore Jr.

September 17, 1934.

57

153 So. Hermosa Ave.,

Sierra Madre, Calif 9/20/34.

Dear friends,

Word has just reached me of the tragic passing of your son, whom I remember as a fine lad in England. My heart's sympathy goes out to you, & yet, even in the terrible loneliness of my widowhood, & crippled condition, I admit a sense of triumph when one I love passes safely into the harbor, & enters

the Father's Name, & the "place prepared"
Our lungs for its peace & safety
& enlarged knowledge & oppor-
tunity in these days of chaotic
uncertainties.

This calls for no reply. I remember
your coming to my sick-room when
I had tonsillitis on the Southern Cross
en route to Rio de Janeiro, & Montevideo.
May the great Comforter comfort your
heart as He has mine for many years.
Cordially yours. (Thos.) Mary W. Roe

017

Kells College,
Auroora, New York.

Sept. 17, 1934.

My dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer:

I sit stunned
by the word which has
just come to me, of
Elliott's passing. I

cannot find words in
which to tell you
how constantly you
are in my thought
and prayer.

I recall, as though
it were only last
week, one incident of
Elliott's baby hood, as
Dr. Speer told it to a
group of us in Northfield:

In the darkness of night,
Sleeping in the room with his
father, Elliott asked: "Is your
face turned toward me?"
And reassured that it was,
he went to sleep, comforted.

Dear friends, - may
you both feel, in this
hour of darkness, that
your father's face is
turned toward you!
affectionately and
in constant sympathetic
remembering of you.
Mabel M. Poys.

(Mrs. C. K.)

57

Malden Mass
September 20. 1934.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Spear:

It was a great blow to us to read of the tragic death of your dear son, and we wish to extend to you, and the other members of your family, our deepest sympathy.

May God bless, strengthen and sustain you during this trying time.

Sincerely yours,

Rose R. Pitcher
James. M. Gordon

Aunt Annie and
" Charlotte's
niece & nephew.

68 Cross St.

516

MISS CELIA J. RILEY
131 MAIN STREET
NEWTON, NEW JERSEY

Sept-18, 1934.

Dear Dr. Spier;

Having heard of the sad death of
your son, I send you these words
of sympathy. My prayer for you
and your family is, that the Lord
may be your stay and also your
comfort in your sorrow now as
always.

Cordially yours -

Celia J. Riley
J. M. C. B.

Dear Mrs Speer:

You are so many
times in our thoughts. —
'Tis nice to have
you back and on

ask 'em
out

Shall hope to see you
Ere long.

Saket S. Ridgway

Dear Dr and Mrs. Speer

817

You have my deepest
sympathy.


Harrist Mattoon Reid

H. M. Reid -

107 Ampere Parkway.

East Orange N.J.

Room 802



My ~~OUR~~ SYMPATHY
TO YOU

In times like this words lose their power
But may these simple words convey
A bit of that deep sympathy
That's sent to comfort you today

a7

MRS. C. HERBERT RICE
816 COLLEGE AVENUE
WOOSTER, OHIO

Sept. 19th - '34-

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Speer -

I feel almost hesitant to intrude with a little note of mine at this time of deep sorrow for you and your dear ones, but my parents and I do want to tell you how our hearts' sympathy is going out to you these days, and has been ever since we read the news of the terrible tragedy at Mt. Hermon. It seems so inexplicable that one so much loved and honored as your son - in the prime of his life, and seemingly so indispensable to that fine school, should have been taken in this tragic way. We know that the wonderful faith

which all of your family shares, will be the one great source of comfort, and that our dear and understanding Father will be very close to you and your dear ones who have been so sorely bereaved. — But if a little extra love and sympathy from the hearts of your hosts of friends can help bring a bit of cheer, we want you to know how full our hearts are with thoughts and prayers.

I know what a shock this news will be to all your loving "India family" — and want to send heartfelt sympathy on behalf of all my colleagues over there too, and especially for Herbert.

We are all safely back home in Worcester now (since Saturday), and it is a comfort and relief to be here. Father is gaining strength, and we feel encouraged. I am the "nurse" now, and am trying to see that mother (who is all worn out)

has a chance for a little rest now too. These are busy days, but I'm so happy to be able to be here when so much is needed. Love to all on combined family sympathy. Mary Compton Rice.

57

IRIS GARDENS
3 Sunrise Avenue
AMHERST, VA.

Sept. 9. 54

Dr Robert E. Speer, New York.

My dear Speer:

I am deeply shocked and
grieved to learn of the tragedy that has
brought such trouble to you. I hasten to
send you a word of sympathy, and add
a token of my old time love and
affection. I do not know how to say any
more than this.

"This is a mad world, my masters."

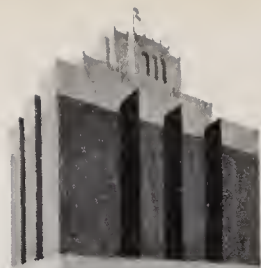
I think I heard you preach at
Princeton from this text.

"Study to be quiet."

"When we are quiet, help comes"

-Amen, Bobly Speer. Geo May Ray.

014



OTTO K. EITEL
MANAGER

WORLD'S LARGEST HOTEL

THE
STEVENS
CHICAGO
MICHIGAN BOULEVARD
SEVENTH TO EIGHTH STREET

Sept 17, 1934

Dear Mr & Mrs Sjaer

You have a very
large place in my
heart these days. I

was very fond of Elliott.

With my warm &

prayerful sympathy,

Charles S. Macfarland
47

67

FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
FIFTH AVE. & FIFTY FIFTH STREET.
NEW YORK.

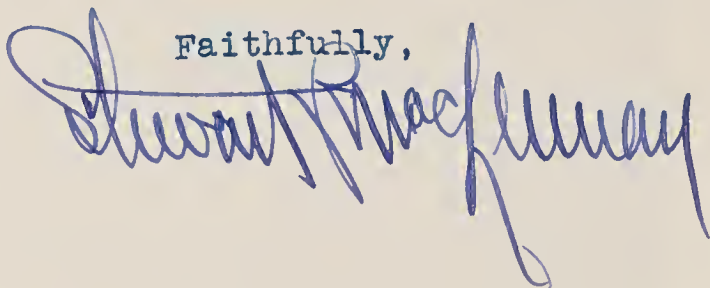
September 25, 1934

Dear Dr. Speer:

On my arrival here we learned of the tragic death of your son. Mrs. MacLennan and I are deeply touched and wish to express to you our deepest sympathy and assure you of our prayers in your heavy bereavement. Surely His grace is sufficient.

Yours in Christian love,

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stewart MacLennan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, decorative initial 'S'.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue
New York.

576
WITHERSPOON BUILDING
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

September twenty-fifth,
1 9 3 4.

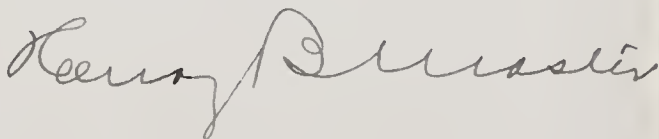
Dear Robert:

I have your letter of September 19th to which Reid has already replied and you can well understand how much sincere regret there is in our hearts that we are not going to be able to do something which we would so much like to do for Elliott's wife and children.

It is often said that so many things are mysteries to little children. Somehow I feel that the older one grows the more mystery seems to prevail in whole sections of life as we know it here. I must not even at this time add to your burdens by reading letters, but perhaps some day we may be able to have a word together.

God's blessing I know is with you and may His strength which you have made so real to so many be your own support in increasing measure.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Robert E. Speer,
Rockledge,
Lakeville, Conn.

57 10 Kings Highway, East,
Mt. Ephraim, N.J.
Sept. 25th 1934

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Spear,

Mrs. Roddy and I deeply sympathize with you in the catastrophe that has fallen on your home in the death of your son.

May you be sustained in this sorrow by the "everlasting arms," and comforted by Him who alone can give that comfort which enables the sorrowing to endure when human sympathy fails to do so.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Stokely Roddy

57

136, Fifth Avenue,
New York.

September 19, 1934

My dear W. Speer,

It is only with pronounced reluctance that I presume to encroach upon the privacy of your great sorrow. Indeed, it is only my very fervent desire that you should not remain unaware of my deepest sympathy, that has decided me in so doing.

Occasions such as this, bring one to an acute realization of the utter futility of mere words; nevertheless, I am venturing to send, and beg you to receive, this brief word of condolence. I pray that both Mrs. Speer and yourself may be sustained by the thought that one day - in the abiding light of the Resurrection Morning - you will meet your loved one again, and that you may be fortified by your faith in the God of all comfort, in what must assuredly be your very darkest hour.

With highest regard,
I remain,

Yours very sincerely,
Philip D. Roberts

Robert E. Speer, D.D.,
24 Gramercy Park.

57

1313 S. Sycamore Ave.,
Los Angeles, Calif.
Sept. 17, 1934.

My dear Doctor Speer,

We were grieved to read about your son's death at Northfield, Mass. in a recent copy of "The Los Angeles Express".

Accept our deep sympathy in this time of bereavement. "The eternal God is our refuge and underneath are the Everlasting Arms."

Respectfully yours,

(Mr. & Mrs.) Victor E. Roman

P.S The last time that we heard you preach was at Grove City, Pa. July 1933. What a powerful message on the Atonement of Christ! Our hearts rejoiced!

V.E.R.

67

Burlington Vt

19 Hickok Place

Sept 21, 1934

Dr Robt E. Spear

New York City - 156 Fifth Ave

My dear Friend,

What can I or any one say
more than name the only
source of strength & consol-
lation. He has made us
for himself, & every loss &
pain & grief that comes is
meant to bring us into closer
fellowship with the very
Fountain of life & good - him-
self our Summan Bonum,
"no creature can be a substi-
tute for God, but God can be a
substitute for every creature".

He alone can solve for us
this mystery, or judge the
offense, or make good to
the loss

the parents, of such a son, &
to Northfield of one who, in
several short years of connec-
tion with that whole enterprise,
had fitly become the Key Stone
of the arch.

The human agency & motive
are even less baffling than
the inscrutable Providence
that permitted the crime.

Yet we who are redeemed
by the passion of Christ, are
bound to believe that even
this terrible evil can be
turned to good, for all ^{but} the
offender - unless he is insane.

Either a maniac or an
enemy has done this deed;
but the united & persist-
ent prayers of the friends
of Northfd, & your own,
can certainly bring about
an open judgment, & find
a good, & fitting man to

fill the place, made so
tragically vacant.

This calls for no reply;
while you & yours have
my heartfelt sympathy in
grief. Yours in the
bosom of Christ.

Henry W. Paulin.

631

Albura, Wash

Oct. 24. 1934.

Dr Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave
New York, N. Y

Dear Dr. Speer and family:-

With deepest sympathy, I pen
these few lines to you. You, too
have experienced the ruthlessness
of the assassin in snatching
a dear one away from his
family and work and we

can only wonder why - but it
must be part of His great-plan
for us.

Not now but in the coming years
It may be in the better Land
Will reading the meaning of
our tears, and then will
understand.

May the Lord be ever near to
you all with His comfort - and
peace.

With sincerest sympathy

I am

Yours truly

(Mrs) Margaret Roberts



with.

My dear Mrs Steer,

Your viz Times news-
papers reported the shocking
news of the sorrow that has
come to you and yours.
It has stirred us all
very deeply.

My sincere and
understanding sympathy,
Mrs Steer, goes out to
you in this hour of

your bereavement. Be
sure, faint which is yours
and the tears will give
you courage and his
mercy will sustain you.

Know that your friends
are thinking of you with
devoted sympathy

Most sincerely yours
Wm. H. Sumner

223, Dexter Street
Denver September twenty third.

September 18, 1934.

234 PENN STREET
HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

My dearest Rob.

Ever since your telegram came, with its dreadful news, you have been constantly in our thoughts, and I just wish it were in my power to make the sorrow lighter.

If heart-felt love and sympathy can help, they are sent to you all in full measure. Indeed I have no words with which to express my horror at this terrible tragedy that has come not alone to your immediate circle, but to us all.

It just seems so though I can not believe that it is really true.

One of my friends said that indeed the whole town mourned when they heard of the loss that had come to you.

Your telegram with its wonderful faith - touched me deeply - that "though all is mystery God is love".

I can not think that any one in his right mind could do such a cowardly, horrible thing - especially to Elliott, who was always so friendly, so cheery, so happy.

My heart aches for you, Rob dear.

234 PENN STREET

HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

We have had both New York and Philadelphia papers - and our local paper has a Press wire which enables us to have very good service - so we can follow pretty well what is being done. We do hope that the Police will be able to find the guilty creature.

We were not out to church on Sunday but friends have told me of Dr. Daubenspeck's beautiful prayer and remarks - and of the letter that would be sent to you from your old home church.

Our hearts are saddened by
this terrible sorrow.

In you all we send love and
deepest sympathy, and we shall
always cherish Elliott's memory -
a fine, honorable, Christian boy.
Not long ago a woman visiting in
town asked me about Elliott, say-
ing that her son, Paul Lehman, had
known him at Lafayette, and that
he felt Elliott's influence had done
so much for him. Paul Lehman is
the grandson of old Gen. Lane, and
great grandson of old Prof. Hilder-
yon. You will probably remember them
both. His mother is Lu Lane Lehman.

234 PENN STREET

HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

Please give Charlie's and my love
to all the family, and keep
a share for your own dear self -

With heartfelt sympathy -

King.

Hand
Sept.

234 PENN STREET
HUNTINGDON, PENNSYLVANIA

Sept. 23, 1934

Dear Rob and Emma.

It is just a week since we received your telegram telling of the terrible tragedy which had befallen us all.

So many dreadful things are recorded in the papers these distressing days that one could not realize fully the whole meaning of it simply by the newspaper accounts. Only with the

possible. My and I are living
a very quiet life at present - and see
little of people except - in Church
and in business. Among our friends
many changes must come soon.

Herbert Miller is critically sick
with heart condition. Mrs. John
Davis died this morning. I wish
there something we could do to soften
your sorrow, but - can only offer
our sincerest sympathy. With much
love.
Affectionately
Charlie

coming of Rob's letter did we realize fully the awfulness of the blast.

We have thought of little else since, and realized our helplessness in offering any real help in such a time. Nothing short of divine help can be of much comfort.

The town people have all been most sympathetic and many letters have come to M. G. Everyone would like to help if it were

Amst
W 5

24 Grayney Park New York
September the sixteenth

Dear Mother & Mrs Beer:

Words cannot
tell you how we
feel for you but we

want you to know
our deep sympathy.
We shall hope to
see you soon after
your return to the
City -

Very sincerely yours -
Mr ^{and} Mrs Robert - Ridgway

Ans
10/5

606 WEST 122ND STREET

September 18, 1934

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Speer:

Silence would perhaps be the most fitting reaction to the wild deed that has rent your family circle here on earth. I must, however, express my instant sympathy, & thank God again (as we did a year ago in August) for our Christian faith, which is the victory that overcomes even the irrational and catastrophic incidents of life.

I was sorry to read, also, in the day's Times of the motoring accident to Mr. Cushman, not so many miles from the spot where Ethel died.

Ellen Emerson House down to me to keep
for her.

Pat tenebras lux; even in the life.

Very cordially yours,

William W. Rockwell

At this tragic hour, will you let me
tell you of a great joy that has come
to me a year after my great loss?

Katharine Lambert Richards, the niece
of the Miss Lambert of the National Board,
has promised to marry me. My doctor is
delighted, & has been my chief confidant
and ally in bringing about this happy
solution; while I believe to the quite in
the line of Ethel's wishes: for she told me
more than once that if she were taken
away she hoped I would marry again.

Katharine & I hope to have a quiet wedding
at her home, 163 Irving Avenue, South
Orange, in November. She has resigned
from the Department of Religion & Biblical
Literature at Smith College, & is in
Northampton to-day to send for things in

4/2/1

Dear Mrs. Speer:

This note brings
with it my deepest
sympathy. It was
only this morning
when I returned

from my holiday
that I learned of

your loss. My thoughts
and prayers are with
you.

Sincerely -
Lillian Rohwedder

Monday
September seventeenth -

dreadful thing could never
happened and we want you
and your family to know that
we are thinking of you often.

Affectionately yours,

Blanchette Rockefeller

BHR

ack.

September 20th

Tarrytown

NY

Dear Mrs Spear,

This is just a word
to bring to you John's and
my deepest sympathy. It does
not seem possible that this

ack.

235 East 22^d St.

Sunday Afternoon.

Sept 23^d

My Beloved Mrs. Spier.

Words cannot express to you
the shock & the sorrow for you &
Dr. Spier which came to me
when I heard of Elliott's death.
My first news of it came through
a newspaper brought on board

just before my boat docked last Thurs-
day. My first thought was for you &
Dr. Spur but at once too, I thought of
his wife & the little children & the school,
& the whole world of education in which
his Christian leadership was & was to be
such a power for good. My love & my
deep sympathy are with you all in a
very special way.

Your telegram to us at "600" is on
my desk here now - the inexplicable
mystery of it all, & through it all your
steady assurance of the goodness of
God. Clara Reid has written me of
how wonderful you are. Surely nothing
is sufficient at such an hour save the
knowledge that in God's world death is
but an incident in life, & that life itself
is eternal, indisturbable by any mere
earthly chance. I long to be of some
service to you & can find no way -

saw to offer you my faith along
with your own + to tell you
how much I love you + suffer
with you.

Your affectionate

Anna Rice

2/18/1

35 East Seventy-sixth Street

Dear Mr. Beer.

My deepest sympathy is
with you and yours in this
unfathomable tragedy. I have no
words - Mr. Fox would come to you
through all these days from

Yours devotedly,

John Jacobus & Rosier.

September 18, 1914.

ack.
E.P.S.

Dec 10

11 Highland Road

Wellesley, Massachusetts

December 2, 1934.

Dear Mrs. Speer,

I cannot longer refrain
from telling you how
sore my heart is and
has been there many
weeks because of the
sorrow that has come
to you and Mr. Speer.

You who have given
strength to innumerable
sufferers are meeting
with fortitude this

cruel experience, but -
 we are all so terribly
 sorry that you must -
 do so.

My love and gratitude
 are added to the
 great wealth of love
 which tries to reach
 you from all over
 the earth,

Yours sincerely

Florence A. Rialy

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LC = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Night Letter
- Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

GR155 29 XC=TARRYTOWN NY SEP 15 611P

MRS ROBT E SPEER:

=METHERMON SCHOOL FOR GIRLS NORTHFIELD MASS=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

OUR HEARTS ARE FILLED WITH THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND LOVE FOR YOU AND MR SPEER OUR EARNEST PRAYERS ARE THAT COUAGE MAY BE GIVEN TO YOU AND ELLIOTTS WIFE:

=ABBY A ROCKEFELLER.

*Jan 10 5 00 PM
Oct 12*

654P

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWGOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

GR108 18/21 DL= HUNTINGTON PENNA SEPT 15 1934 1257PM=

DR ROBERT E SPEER=

EASTNORTHFIELD MASS=

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

ALL GREATLY SHOCKED AT NEWS OF YOUR TELEGRAM LOVE AND
SYMPATHY TO ALL CAN WE DO ANYTHING WIRE ARRANGEMENTS VIA
WESTERNUNION=

CHARLIE AND MIG.

(157PM)

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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 NM = Night Message
 NL = Night Letter
 LC = Deferred Cable
 NLT = Cable Night Letter
 Ship Radiogram

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at

GR48 12 XC=SHELBURNEFALLS MASS SEP 15 1033A

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

METHERMON SCHOOL EASTNORTHFIELD MASS

LOUISE AND I SEND DEEP AND LOVING SYMPATHY IN YOUR
 INEXPRESSABLE SORROW=

HOWARD C ROBBINS.

1141A

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

BY DIRECT WIRE FROM

1223S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LCO = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Letter
- WLT = Week-End Letter

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

NAJ53 12 XC=SHELBURNEFALLS MASS SEP 15 1035A

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

LAKEVILLE CONN=

LOUISE AND I SEND DEEP AND LOVING SYMPATHY IN YOUR
INEXPRESSIBLE SORROW=

HOWARD C ROBBINS.

1056A..

182

TELEPHONE No.

TO BE DELIVERED TO *1100A*

DELIVERED TO BE *100*

DELIVERED TO BE *100*

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

BY DIRECT WIRE FROM

1223S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

SIGNS

- DL = Day Letter
- NM = Night Message
- NL = Night Letter
- LCO = Deferred Cable
- NLT = Cable Letter
- WLT = Week-End Letter

NEWCOMB CARLTON; PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER; FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time as shown in the data line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

NAJ36 32 NL= DENVER COLO SEP 15

DR AND MRS ROBERT E SPEER=

LAKEVILLE CONN=

WE ARE INEXPRESSABLY SHOCKED BY THE TRAGIC OCCURRENCE AT
 NORTHFIELD AND TENDER OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AT THIS HOUR
 OF YOUR GREAT BEREAVEMENT MAY THE GOD OF ALL MERCIES COMFORT
 YOUR SORROWING HEARTS=

MR AND MRS ALBERT A REED. TELEPHONE No.

TELEPHONED TO
804A SEP 16
TIME

..... TO BE

PERMITS }

TO }

OF }

PATRONS ARE REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

078

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4001 FIFTH AVENUE - AT THACKERAY
TELEPHONE MAYFLOWER 3846
PITTSBURGH, PA.

WILLIAM J. REID, D. D., MINISTER
920 S. AIKEN AVENUE
TELEPHONE MAYFLOWER 0652

September 18, 1934

Mr. Robert E. Spear
156 Fifth Ave.
New York City.

My dear Dr. Spear - With great sorrow, and
with deepest sympathy for you and Mrs. Spear,
I have read of the tragedy at Northfield. That
is one of the mysteries of Providence which
makes us dumb. My heart urges me to write
something to you, but I do not know what
to say. In some measure your friends all share
with you in this terrible shock. Several members
of my congregation have expressed to me their
deep feeling for you, and we are doing all we
can to uphold you by our love and our prayers.

Yours most sincerely,
William J. Reid

118

CHURCH OFFICE:
639 WEST 173RD STREET
WADSWORTH 3-2300

Broadway Temple
METHODIST EPISCOPAL
TOWER IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION
BROADWAY FROM 173RD TO 174TH STREETS
NEW YORK
FORMERLY CHELSEA CHURCH

Christian F. Reisner D. D.

October 11th, 1934

Rev. Robert Speer, D. D.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Personal

Dear Dr. Speer:

I cannot resist the impulse to send you this note of sincerest and deepest sympathy.

Your life since I met you as a boy in Kansas has had a great influence upon me. You have been serene and trustful through all kinds of experiences. I cannot conceive of a much more severe sorrow than has come to you in the loss of your son. I know that your faith will fail not and that in some way the Comforter will provide strength so that you can go through these hard days.

I will never forget your gracious wife as she appeared at the Kiwanis luncheon just before sailing for Europe. What a marvelous mother she must be to your children. What a blessing she has proved herself to be to the thousands who have crossed her pathway.

Please accept the sincerest sympathy of Mrs. Reisner and myself in this your dark and trying day.

With an ever increasing regard, I am

Yours faithfully,

Christian F. Reisner

CHRISTIAN F. REISNER.

H.

618
The Presbyterian Church In The United States of America

OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK
TRANSYLVANIA PRESBYTERY

REV. A. GARLAND ROTENBERRY

LANCASTER, KENTUCKY

October 14, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

I have been instructed to convey to you the deepest sympathy and prayers of the Presbytery of Transylvania, in your hour of sorrow. May the Christ whom you have proclaimed during the years, speak peace to you and sustain you in your hours of grief.

Very cordially,

A. Garland Rotenberry
Stated Clerk.

618

W. COURTLAND ROBINSON
DELHI, NEW YORK

My dear Robert,

Among thousands who extend
their sympathy in this black hour
none is more sincere than I, a friend
of more than forty years.

May God be very near!

Sincerely yours,
W. Courtland Robinson

518

Linwood Presbyterian Church

LINWOOD BOULEVARD—WOODLAND TO MICHIGAN

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

HARRY CLAYTON ROGERS
MINISTER

My dear friends—

Mrs Rogers and I are deeply grieved to-night over the sorrow that has come to you—our hearts ache for you and we share, beyond our words to express, your grief—surely we "can see through a glass darkly"—and Christ alone can sustain us—till we see face to face and know even as we are known". Of the power of friendship, and the prayers of your thousands of devoted intercessors await for you—then you are ever more borne up by the everlasting arms—

"For he said—surely, they are my people—
In all of their affliction—He was afflicted—
"And the angel of His presence saved them—"

Ever faithfully,
Harry Clayton Rogers

September 15th 1934.

Dr Mrs Robert E. Speer
and family
4-4.

AS



September 17, 1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Robert:-

Of course we were shocked to read in the newspapers of the great sorrow which has come to you in this strange and unprecedented way, and so among the many expressions of sympathy that will pour in upon you in great volume I just want to come and put my hand on your shoulder in tender love as one of the friends of the days long gone by.

Nobody knows better than yourself that words are feeble and there is nothing much to be said by man in these Supreme Moments that come in our lives, but it means a whole lot to a fellow to have a friend to come and just stand alongside of him with a tear in his eye and sympathy throbbing in his heart, and that is how I come.

However, we who are the Lord's are never crushed. We have long learned where to turn.

The late Mr. Walter Hubbell of Rochester was Mr. George Eastman's most intimate friend, and was Secretary of the Eastman Kodak Company. He taught a Sunday School Class in the Baptist Church at Rochester of about 1000 men. I used to go up there sometimes and teach his class for him. When the splendid new building was put up for the Hubbell Class--I always thought Mr. Eastman furnished the money for it--I was selected to make the dedicatory address. In this way I came in touch with Mr. Eastman.

Mr. Eastman did not belong to any church. Like so many other people, he said he thought if he did all the good he could in all the ways that offered that was all that was required of him, and he did a tremendous amount of good in supporting many splendid things.

My reply was, "That may be all right when you are riding on the top of the wave, with a great and profitable business with unlimited resources, but in every man's life there comes a Supreme Moment of one sort or another, and when that time comes if a man does not have something outside of himself, some Rock of Ages in which he can hide and shelter himself from the storm, he is apt to crack under the stress of the tempest."

The Supreme Moment came in George Eastman's life. He

had nowhere to go, nothing to which he could hold, and he cracked, and one of his guns ended the career of a man who apparently had everything that this world has to offer.

It was said of Mr. Eastman at the time that he was suffering from cancer. I said I thought that was a mistake. Right near his home is the Episcopal Church. The Rector's wife, who was a school-mate of my daughter Isabel at Wellesley, was a great favorite of Mr. Eastman, and she tried repeatedly to get him into the church. She was stricken with cancer, and Mr. Eastman did everything that money could do to save her. He sent her to his home in the South and had the greatest physicians in the land, but she passed away. So I imagine this is how the cancer story was started.

In this great sorrow you and Mrs. Speer have something to which you can hold and know the Lord is with you, and I simply pass on to you one of my favorite verses, Deuteronomy 31:6, and remain,

Your old friend,

Wm H. Rayway

518



28 EAST JACKSON BLVD.
CHICAGO

Enroute, Oct 1, 34

My dear Dr. Speer, My heart does go out to you in sincere sympathy because of the loss of that wonderful boy.

I know how to sympathize. The one I loved best was my young brother Jack, who was lost in an airplane accident a few years ago. Mr. Bryan wrote this to me: "Christ has made of death but a narrow starlit strip between the friendships and communion of yesterday and the reunion of tomorrow."

I expected him to carry on my work too, so I do know how to sympathize. I am praying that God will give to you the comfort your message has brought to so many.

Sincerely
Homer Rodeheaver

518

Santa Monica, Calif.
723 California Ave.
Oct. 9, 1934,

Dear Bear, In the Princeton Alumni
Monthly of Sept 28, under the class of '82,
I am shocked to read of the death of your
son Elliott. No details are given ex-
cept that he was killed by a shot
fired through his study window.
I can't imagine the motive or such
a desecrating deed in so secluded a
place unless it was the act of an in-
sane religious fanatic.

Please accept my sympathy in this
great affliction. I can't conceive of
a more terrible blow to a father.

As for myself, I returned in Calif.
almost 20 years associated with the
Northwestern Methodist Jr. Ch. In
1931 I had a severe attack which put
me on the retired list. My sister & I live
together in our own home. We are both
unmarried and have been partners for
over thirty years!

Do you remember the trip we made to
Haystack Camp in the Spring of '89 to address
the M. Ch. That was 45 years ago!
I realize that you are in good health,
I include some photos,

67



September 19, 1934.

Dear Uncle Rob:

Barbara and I were both surprised and deeply shocked by the news of the dreadful misfortune that has come to Elliott.

Nothing that we can say or do will, I fear, be of any help, but we do want you to know our thoughts and love are with you all.

Please remember us especially to Holly and to Aunt Emma.

Ever affectionately yours,
Charles L Reed. L.

255 West 1st Street.
Erie, Pennsylvania.

013

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
CINCINNATI PUBLIC SCHOOLS
216 EAST NINTH STREET

EDWARD D. ROBERTS
SUPERINTENDENT

September 19
1934

Dr. Robert E. Speer
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

My dear Dr. Speer:

Though I know you will be overwhelmed with expressions from all over the country, I am taking the liberty of adding my own in order that you may realize that this one of your friends is feeling with you in this time of your great trial. I would not burden you with my own expression but do want to let you know that I am standing with you in deep sympathy. Please feel that no acknowledgment of this note is necessary and that I only want you to realize that my deepest feeling is coming to you, and will continue to do so.

Very sincerely yours

Edward D. Roberts

94

DR. EDWARD NEWELL, PRESIDENT
CHAS. E. CORNELL, SECRETARY

MOUNT HERMON OF THE PACIFIC
SEVEN MILES NORTH OF SANTA CRUZ
ON SOUTHERN PACIFIC RY.

O. A. ROSS
GENERAL BUSINESS MANAGER
MOUNT HERMON, CALIF.

Mount Hermon Association, Inc.

REV. FRANCIS W. RUSSELL, D. D.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
BIBLE CONFERENCE AND PROGRAM
1133 HAMILTON AVENUE
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA

9/19.

Dear Mr. Spear:-

I saw a brief paragraph
in one of our West papers
about your terrible sorrow.
No word of it was in the
San Francisco press, so far
as I could see. Both
Mrs Russell and I trust there
was been some mistake.

But if it be true we
both send our deepest
love and sympathy.

Truly yours

F. W. Russell

618

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEW YORK CITY

PASTOR'S STUDY

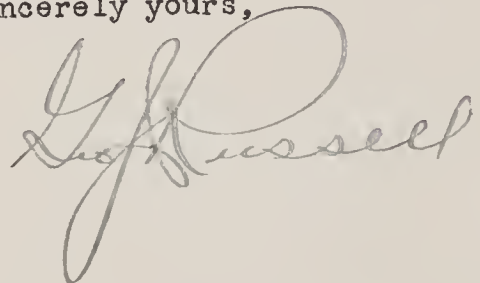
September 15, 1934.

My dear Dr. Speer:-

I was profoundly shocked to read in the paper this morning of the tragedy at Northfield, and I wish to express my deepest sympathy to you and Mrs. Speer in the hour of your great bereavement.

Words are futile at a time like this, but I wish to be one of your many friends who will seek to help you bear your sorrow by sharing it with you.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

GJR/ARM.

Ans
Oct. 7

Argyll Lodge,
St. Andrews,
Gife.

My dear Mrs. S.

It is with the deepest sorrow
that I hear today of the strange
and crushing tragedy that has
come into your life -
There is little enough we
factual can say to another at
such a time but I can at
least say to you that you and
Mr. Sizer are in our thoughts
and prayers - I know how
your heart will beat yourselves
with pain and the quiet
confidence of assured faith

And this will be a pang to
your eyes and to those who
hold you in affection -

We know from the sad end of
our own boy what it all
means -

Mr. Richard joins me in
every expression of sympathy -

Yours faithfully,

Charles A. Richardson

19th Sept

1934

210
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWTON, N. J.
CLARENCE W. ROUSE, D. D., PASTOR

Sept 17th

Dear Sister

I want you to know of my
deep sympathy with you in
your great sorrow & bereave-
ment. My own son, Robert,
who is only two months
older than Elliot, was in
Minister at the same time.
I can feel the shadow of
your grief.

You have fought a good
fight. You will come thro
this, I know, with scars
yph with the great Peace.
God bless you richly.

Ever sincerely

Clarence W. Rouse

888
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
EDMUND GRINDAL RAWSON, D. D., MINISTER
7 W. MONTGOMERY AVENUE, ARDMORE, PA.

28 September 1934

My dear Speer:

My heart has gone out to you every since the dreadful day of the tragedy that came with such terrible suddenness into your life. Your letter, in reply to Graham Wilson's, I heard read at the last meeting of the Board of National Missions. Of course we know that the dear Christ is going with you through all the darkness of the way but I feel I must join the hosts of your friends whose deepest sympathy also goes with you on the sorrowful journey. Your triumphant faith will win even in the face of the inexplicable horror of such unrestrained sin. It seems as though none but some soul who had lost his reason could have done such a horrible deed. May God pour out the riches of His blessing upon you and yours through all these dreary days. Do not think to answer this letter.

Faithfully yours,

Rawson

618

AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY
152 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK

Sept. 2 Co. 1934.

My dear brother Robert Speer.

I do want you to know that my heart goes out to you and Mrs. Speer and Mrs. Elliot Speer, in love and sympathy in the tragic death of your son Elliot.

It must be a source of comfort to you to know that a host of your friends are now daily remembering you in love and prayer.

With much love,

Joe Robbins

011
FREDERICK P. RISTINE
123 SOUTH BROAD STREET
PHILADELPHIA

My dear Dr. & Mrs. Spear:

Mrs Ristine, Betty & I
have been thinking about you
& want to extend our sympathy
in your great bereavement.

Very sincerely yours

Frederick P. Ristine

To

Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Spear.

Lakeville Conn.

Albert E. Roberts

The Northfield Schools

NOV 27 1934 MOUNT HERMON SCHOOL · NORTHFIELD SEMINARY

East Northfield Massachusetts

Ans. _____

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

November 20, 1934.

Doctor Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Doctor Speer:

Your letter to Lieutenant Ferrari will be placed in his hands at once and I hope that Mrs. Speer may be excused from coming to the inquest. I fear, however, that they may insist upon it.

You can, of course, count on our fullest cooperation in her behalf.

We are going to have a very lovely booklet which is now being expanded to carry all of the Memorial Service. It will be widely distributed and my first reaction to your suggestion that the Memorial Resolutions be included in the appendix is that it would detract from the record of the Service itself.

Doctor Boynton Merrill raised the question about reading the Resolutions at the Service but Mr. Fry and others who had responsibility for planning it felt that it should not be done. However, the matter can be given further thought and I will discuss it with Mr. Fry.

We all want this book to convey as far as possible not only what was said at this wonderful Service but also what was felt by everyone there.

We shall of course submit the proof and want your suggestions.

Very sincerely yours,

Albert E. Roberts

Mr. M. Rochester

REV. W. M. ROCHESTER, B.A., D.D.
EDITOR AND MANAGER



Room 707, STERLING TOWER BLDG.
372 BAY STREET

R. F. Speer

NOV 28 1934

The Presbyterian Record

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY OF

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Toronto 2, Ont. November 26, 1934.

Dr. Robert E. Speer,
The Board of Foreign Missions of
The Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Ave.
New York. N.Y., U.S.A.

Dear Dr. Speer,

I have your letter of the 20th. This with the communication from Mr. Kusiw I placed in the hands of Dr. Grant. After giving this consideration he states that it would be impossible for us to consider any help at the present time. We are struggling against great odds with our Budget at the present time but hope later to be in a better position.

I learned of the very sore bereavement which you and Mrs. Speer suffered and intended to write you a note to express to you and Mrs. Speer my deep sympathy in this very great and unexpected sorrow. A real tragedy indeed. Perhaps I can do that a little more sympathetically today since it is the anniversary of our younger boy's death overseas. It is just seventeen years ago since he fell at the Battle of Passchendaele. The older lad fell the year following in September, ten months later at the Battle of Bourlen Wood. There is this difference with us, that in war one looks for this as an imminent possibility. It is different in the experience of private life. Be assured therefore of my deepest sympathy with you in this trial.

I may attend the Foreign Mission Conference this year and if so it will give me great pleasure to meet you again.

With kind regards.

Very sincerely yours,

W. M. Rochester

WMR/B

Geo W. Roesch

Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church

DELAFIELD AVE. AND ELIZABETH ST.
STATEN ISLAND
NEW YORK CITY

REV. GEORGE W. ROESCH, S. T. B., PH. D.

PARSONAGE: 582 DELAFIELD AVE.
PHONE: GIBRALTAR 2-0746

December 5, 1934

Dr. Robert Speer
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Speer:

News in the Times yesterday morning roused in me deepest sympathy for you and your family. It has been flowing toward you from the time that the sad tragedy occurred which has brought such a shadow upon all those who knew you and your son. I should have written before had I not felt I would be intruding in that sanctuary of sorrow where we all tread the winepress alone.

Yet we know that you were not alone for He who brings comfort from above was walking with you. What can I, with five boys and two girls and an unbroken family circle, say of value to you who have lost so much. Yet I know that our "Savior has our treasure" and that He is always with us.

Years ago when I was a lad in the Central Y.M.C.A. in Brooklyn, you delivered an address one Sunday afternoon on Hebrews 12:1,2 which has been with me all my life. Your books have been a constant inspiration and stimulus. A few summers ago I brought my boys forty miles to hear you deliver an address, which proved to be on Jonathan Edwards. It was worth it, for all the piled up influences of the years came from the speaker to at least one in his congregation and are with him yet.

~~Some~~ May you and your family be enabled to throw off what seems to "the weary weight of this unintelligible world", which Christ alone can lift, and run with new steadfastness the race that is set before you with a single eye to that great coach who trained us from the beginning and looks upon us with that encouraging smile and with that strange look of one who has been made "perfect through suffering!"

Mrs. Roesch joins me in heartfelt sympathy. *My sorrow for your daughter - in law and the children*

Sincerely yours,

Geo. W. Roesch